

June 6th, 1848.

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

Letters were read from Prof. J. Sturm, of Nuremberg, dated March 25, 1848, and from Dr. Wm. L. Jones, of Georgia, dated 29th May, 1848, severally acknowledging the receipt of their notices of election as Correspondents.

A letter was read from A. H. Bowman, Esq., dated Fort Johnson, South Carolina, in relation to exchanges with the Academy of coast shells from that vicinity.

A communication was read from Dr. R. W. Gibbes, of Columbia, S. C., entitled "Monograph of the Fossil Squalidæ of the United States," and intended for publication in the Journal. Referred to a Committee, consisting of Drs. Gambel and Morton, and Mr. Conrad.

June 20th, 1848.

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

Mr. Cassin read a paper, describing new species of the genera *Vidua*, *Euplectus*, *Pyrenestes* and *Pitylus*. Referred to Dr. Gambel, Dr. Townsend and Mr. Harris.

Mr. Cassin also read a communication on the probable identity of *Pica Nuttallii* with the *P. Hudsonica*. Referred to the same Committee.

On leave granted, a report from the Committee on Dr. R. W. Gibbes' paper, on the Fossil Squalidæ of the United States, was read and adopted, recommending the same for publication in the next No. of the Journal.

A circular was read from the "Society for the development of the Mineral resources of the United States," announcing its recent formation in Philadelphia, and stating its objects, and requesting the co-operation of the Academy in the same.

June 27th, 1848.

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

The Committee on the following paper by Mr. Cassin, reported in favor of publication.

*Descriptions of new species of Birds of the genera Vidua, Briss.; Euplectus, Sw.; Pyrenestes, Sw.; and Pitylus, Cuv.; specimens of which are in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.*

By JOHN CASSIN.

*VIDUA albonotata, nobis.*

Shoulders yellow.

Primaries white at their bases, and for about one-third of their length.

Greater wing coverts also tipped with white, which, with that portion of the primaries of the same colour, forms a conspicuous white spot on the wing.